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BUSINESS DEPARTMENT.

THE AMERICAN ART UNION.

Upon the payment of the sum of five dollars, any person may become a subscriber to THE AMERICAN ART UNION for one year, and will receive at the time of such payment:

- 1st. A season ticket to the permanent Exhibition of Paintings, at the Society's Gallery, No. 44 East Fourteenth Street, Union Square, New York City;
- 2d. A proof before letters, on India paper, of the etching of the year, by Walter Shirlaw, from Eastman Johnson's picture "The Reprimand." This etching is mounted upon heavy plate paper, and is of a size (13x16 inches) and quality such as the leading dealers sell at from twenty to twenty-five dollars;
- 3d. The illustrated ART UNION, which will be issued monthly, for the current year. (The price of the journal to non-subscribers will be \$3.00 per year);
- 4th. One-half of the subscription will be set apart for the formation of a fund, to be expended for the joint account of the subscribers in the purchase of works of art, which will be held in trust until the end of the year, when they will be delivered unconditionally to the whole body of the subscribers, represented by a committee. This committee will then make such disposition of the works as may be determined by the majority of the subscribers, each of whom will be entitled to send in one vote as to the manner of disposal.

There are several feasible ways in which to dispose of the purchased works.

They may be sold at auction or private sale, or at an auction, which will be attended only by subscribers, and the proceeds divided equally among all the subscribers; or they may be divided among the bodies of subscribers of the several States, each one to receive its quota according to the amount of the subscriptions from such state. The several state committees may then dispose of the works in one of the aforementioned methods, or present them to form nucleuses of new public art galleries, or additions to some already in existence. Or they may be distributed among the subscribers by lot.

In enumerating these various methods of disposition, the American Art Union expresses no preference of one above another; its desire and interest are only that the disposition of the collection shall be equitable and satisfactory to all concerned.

No exorbitant prices will be paid to the artists, but such only as are generally obtained at the studios

for a similar class of work, and the prices to the subscribers will be exactly those paid to the artists.

The latent taste for art that has existed in the country, has been developed in a wonderful degree during the past twenty years, until there is scarcely to be found a home in any section that does not contain some form of art production. It is believed by the projectors of the American Art Union that the time is at hand for such an enterprise, and that the lovers of art will be eager to avail themselves of its benefits.

Honorary Secretaries to receive subscriptions will be appointed from time to time in various parts in the country. Money may also be sent by postal or Express order, Bank Check or Draft or Registered Letter, payable to the *American Art Union*, No. 44 East 14th Street, New York.

Any person sending a club of twenty subscriptions to the ART UNION, will receive an additional subscription free of charge. Specimen copies of the illustrated ART UNION journal will be sent postpaid on application.

The names of subscribers to the American Art Union will be published in the columns of the ART UNION from month to month.

By order of the Board of Control,

E. WOOD PERRY, JR.,

Secretary.

OUT OF TOWN EXHIBITIONS.

One of the objects of the formation of the American Art Union was that the society should be the medium between the several exhibition associations of the country and the artists—to conduct negotiations that might be mutually advantageous—to furnish such associations meritorious collections of pictures without giving them the trouble of dealing with individual artists, and, on the other hand, to obtain for the artists guarantees of sales to an amount proportionate to the number and value of the pictures exhibited. In this respect, the late Southern Exposition, at Louisville, Ky., was pre-eminently successful, and that city can now point to the possession of a collection of fifteen pictures as a nucleus of a public art gallery. This result was brought about through the mediumship of the American Art Union, as detailed in another part of this journal.

Correspondence is requested from friends of art who may wish to hold exhibitions in their several cities during the coming year.

E. WOOD PERRY, Jr., Secretary,

42 East 14th street, New York City.

THE Art Union Galleries are open day and evening Elevator at the street door, No. 44 East Fourteenth St., Union Square, South, New York.